

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: ELKE HELFTENBEIN-1 (PCT)

PCT No.: PCT/EP 99/05857 FILED: AUGUST 12, 1999

TITLE: VESSEL FOR WITHDRAWING BLOOD

#710
6/01-01PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Ass't. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to Examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 3, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 or 2", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 4, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 3", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 4", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 6, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 5", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 7, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 6", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 8, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 7", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 9, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 8", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 10, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 9", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 10", and
insert --claim f--;

Claim 12, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 11", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 13, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 12", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 14, line 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 13", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 17, lines 2-3, delete "any one of claims 1 to 13", and
insert --claim 1--;

Claim 19, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 13", and
insert --claim 1--;

Cancel Claim 21 and insert new claim 24 as follows:

--24. A stabilized blood sample containing a guanidinium
salt and a reducing agent and/or a detergent
and/or a buffer substance.--

gt sub DII

Claim 22, line 1, change "21" to --24--.

Claim 23, line 1, change "21 or 22" to --24--.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, original claim 21 has been replaced by new claim 24, the multiple dependency of certain of the dependent claims has been removed so as to avoid the surcharge associated therewith and an Abstract is being provided. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
ELKE HELFTENBEIN

By: Edward Freedman

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Date of Deposit: February 9, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Lisa L. Vulpis
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